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HISTORICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE BURNING OF EVE IN VIRGINIA.*

Few have been the cases in which criminals have been burnt at the stake by judicial process in the region now embraced by the United States during the Colonial period. At present we can recall only three cases of this extraordinary punishment.

In Cambridge, Mass., a negro woman was burnt at the stake in 1749 for murdering her master; and in 1746 a negro woman named Eve was burnt, by order of court, in Orange county, Va., for poisoning her master; and it is proposed to give some account of her trial.

Preliminary thereto, it may be proper to say that when Orange county was cut off from Spotsylvania county, Va., in 1734, it embraced not only what is now Culpeper, Rappahannock, Greene and Madison counties, in Eastern Virginia, but most of the Valley of Virginia, and the country west of this to the Ohio—a veritable principality—under the municipal control of the County Court of Orange and its officers—civil and military. The first court was held in March, 1734, by the order of the Governor, at the house of Henry Willis, on Black Walnut Run, in the lower part of what is now Orange county, and commissions for the justices of peace, sheriff and other officers had also been sent, and those appointed were duly sworn. In 1737 about twenty acres of land was leased from Mr. Branham, near what is now Somerville's Ford of the Rapidan, and on an elevated plateau south of that famous stream, overlooking for a long distance the level lands of what is now Culpeper county, lying northward, and there the old court-house and jail were built in 1738, and pillory and whipping-post and stocks were put up.

The county court was composed of a number of the most prominent and reputable gentlemen of the county, who held commissions from the Governor as justices of the peace, and several of these could act as the county court, having jurisdiction over all cases except treason and felonies, and could punish criminals at the pillory, whipping-post, and stock, and by fine and imprisonment, &c. White persons accused of treason and felonies were sent for trial to the General Court, held at Williamsburg. Slaves accused of treason or felony were tried by special courts of Oyer and Terminer, organized for each case. The examining

*According to Rapin, one Richard Rouse, a cook, on the 16th of February, 1531, poisoned some soup in the Bishop of Rochester's kitchen, and over seventeen persons were poisoned—some fatally. Parliament thereupon passed an act (twenty-second year of Henry VIII.) declaring poisoning treason, and Rouse was attainted, and sentenced to be boiled to death, and the sentence was executed in Smithfield. This punishment was adjudged to be inflicted on all poisoners hereafter.—*Rapin*, Vol. 7, page 417.

court would certify to the Governor that such party or parties, being slaves, were accused of certain treason or felony, and the Governor would then send up commissions for a number of gentlemen to be sworn in as justices of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, any four or more of whom might sit as such a court, and try slaves for felony or treason. This court had the power to grant to criminals condemned for treason or felony the benefit of clergy, if it had not been granted them before. This device greatly mitigated the severity of the English colonial laws, for it changed a felony to a misdemeanor, and the lenient magistrates of Orange generally granted this privilege where the crime was not an outrageous one, and criminals generally got off with whipping, branding in the hand with a hot iron, or other punishment applicable to misdemeanors.

A slave of John Baylor, in Orange, was once condemned to death for breaking in the house of Erasmus Taylor and stealing eighteen pence. He could not by law be allowed the benefit of clergy, because on a previous trial for another offence this had been granted to him, and the privilege could only be once enjoyed.

In June, 1737, a court of Oyer and Terminer was held at old Orange Courthouse, and Peter, a slave of John Riddle, was tried for the murder of his master. Peter plead guilty, was condemned to be hung, and to have his head cut off and placed upon a pole near the courthouse "in order to deter others from committing such a crime." It is probable that the honorable justices soon tired of this ghastly spectacle, and had the head moved a few miles to Negrohead Run, at a place near the locality of the crime, for the Run long bore this name.

Peter's fate, however, did not have the effect the court desired, for in 1745, when, for aught we know, Peter's head may have still been hanging on its pole, Eve, a slave of Peter Montague, poisoned her master, and the examining court believing her to be guilty, an express was sent to the Governor at Williamsburg for a commission of Oyer and Terminer, directed to various gentlemen, in order to hold a court for her trial. The commission soon came with a "*dedimus potestatem*" writ, directed to Colonel George Taylor and Richard Winslow, authorizing them to administer the oaths of office to other justices, though the gentlemen were already justices of the county court. Taylor and Winslow administered the numerous oaths required by act of Parliament to William Russell, one of the commission, and he then administered the oath of office to George Taylor, Richard Winslow, Edward Spencer, and Philip Clayton, and they were duly sworn as justices of the court of Oyer and Terminer for the trial of Eve; and proclamation was made by the sheriff that the court was duly constituted on that day, the twenty-third of January, 1746. Thereupon stepped forward Zachary Lewis, attorney for the King, and informed the court that Eve, a negro slave woman lately belonging to Peter Montague, late of Orange county, Virginia, had, on

August 19th, 1745, poisoned Mr. Montague, and that he had languished to December 27th of the same year. Whereupon Eve was led to the bar under the custody of Colonel Thomas Chew, Gent., sheriff of Orange, and put on her trial for his murder. She pleaded not guilty and put herself upon the court, upon which witnesses were produced, sworn and examined against her, and she was fully heard in her own defence. The court decided that she was guilty of the murder, and it was determined that she should be drawn upon a hurdle to the place of execution, and be there burnt. The sheriff was ordered to carry out the execution on the following Wednesday. The court adjudged Eve to be worth fifty pounds, and directed this to be certified to the next General Assembly. The court was dissolved and the proceedings signed by William Russell, the presiding justice, January 23, 1746.

The sentence was probably executed on the high hills of Orange county, adjacent to the old courthouse, and the smoke of the burning of Eve was visible over a large extent of country.

It appears that it was not the custom in the courts of Orange in Colonial times to allow or appoint counsel to defend accused persons; these unfortunates had to defend themselves. The first notice of counsel for criminals is after July, 1776, when the officers and magistrates of the county took oaths of allegiance to the State of Virginia.

On May 26th, 1748, Letty, a negro slave belonging to Mrs. Harriet Potter, of Middlesex county, Virginia, for some unknown reason, probably for change of venue, was tried by an Orange court of Oyer and Terminer for mingling poison, water, bread and meat, and giving it to one Richard Sims, who ate and drank thereof, and did languish from the first of August, 1746, until the fourth day of January, 1747, when he died in Middlesex county; and did also give poison to a negro man, Simon, a negro slave of John Grymes, of said county, who languished from September 30, 1746, to May, 1747, when he died. The court decided that Letty was not guilty and ordered her release; probably leading to her acquittal was the feeling that the horrible scene so recently enacted at the burning of Eve should not be repeated in Orange county. In Campbell's History of Virginia it is stated that in 1610-'11, a man was burned at Jamestown for killing and eating his wife.

DR. A. G. GRINNAN.

THE LEOPOLDUS.

The Leopoldus, a Dutch vessel engaged in the traffic between Virginia and Holland, was seized in 1653, and adjudged "fforfeitt and accordingly confiscated according to the act of Parliament for increase of Navigation." The capture of this vessel has been brought forward to prove that Virginia did not enjoy free trade with Holland in the interval of the Protectorate, but at this time, 1653, England and Holland were

at war, and it is probable that the Leopoldus was seized because she could not show a special license. The Leopoldus was doubtless one of the two Spanish Fleming ships which are known to have arrived in Virginia in 1653. (See Randolph MSS., *Virginia Historical Society MSS. Collections*, Vol. III, p. 248.) The vessel was sold to Colonel Walter Chiles for £400. (See, for bill of sale, *Hening*, Vol. I, 382.) The following is the account of the capture from Records of Lower Norfolk County, Vol. 1651-1656, folio p. 52. It was kindly communicated to us by Mr. Edward W. James :

Att a Co^rt held the 15th day of August Anno Dm: 1653:

Lower Norff. Present—Coll: Francis Yardley, Lief^t: Coll: Cornelius Loyd, Leit^t: Coll: John Sidney, Mr: Lemuell Mason, Mr. William Mosley, Mr. Thomas Bridge, Mr. Thomas Goodrick, Com^rs.

Ordered to be recorded this 15th of August, 1653:

Richard Sternell aged thirty Eight years or thereabouts Sworne & Exaied saith y^t about ye Sixt of June last past he this depon^t beinge on board ye Shipp called the Leopoldus, Shee ye s^d Shipp lyenge at anchor in Elizabeth River in ye County of Lower Norff in Virginia Did see Mr. Gunnell & Mr. Reade masters of London Shippes, their Shippes lyenge att anchor in James River in ye part called Newport Newes, w^{ch} said two masters came on board ye s^d Leopoldus wth a wherry & fower or five men wth them w^{ch} he this depon^t Supposed to be their owne Seamen. An he this depon^t did heare Mr. Read and Mr. Gunnell demand from whence or from what p^{te} ye s^d Shipp came, and some of ye officers of ye s^d Leopoldus said that they came from Dunkurke, then said ye two London Masters Shewe us yo^r Commission, and ye s^d officers of ye s^d Leopoldus Said that their Captaine & their Capesman had carried their Commission wth them to the Governor. Whereuppon the said Gunnell & Read said that they ought to have brought their Commission to them, for Said Gunnell & Read, let yo^r Commission be what it will, or from whence, wee regard it not, Except it be under ye States of England hands & Seales, they would not regard it; and further this depon^t did heare ye s^d Gunnell & Read say that they had power to command Leif^t Coll^o Cornelius Loyd to assist them, he ye s^d Mr. LLoyd beinge then on board, & havinge ye s^d Shipp deliv^{red} upp into his custody for ye use of the Country, if they did not prove themselves free to trade in Virginia, and ye s^d Gunnell & Read said that they had power to command ye Gen^rall of o^r Country to ayd & assist them in takinge ye said Leopoldus for a prize, & ye s^d Gunnell & Read demanded to see ye hold of ye s^d Shipp, whereuppon the s^d officers of ye s^d Leopoldus gave them leave, & they did Search the s^d hould, & returned into the Shippes Cabbine againe & reasoned the cause a little & then went forth, & uppon their goeing away they said that they would leave one man on board wth

them to secure them from any others takinge them & ye s'd officers of the s'd Shipp Said y't if they left a man on board uppon force, that they would throwe him the s'd man over board & did offer to throwe him over, but had mercy of the s'd man, & tooke him and carried him on Shoare ymediately, Gunnell & Read beinge then in Sight and See what was done.

RICHARD STARNELL.

Jurat'r in Curia 15'o die Augusti A'o Dm 1653:

p me WILLM JEVMY, Clercum.

Ordered to be Recorded ye day & yeare above Said.

Robert Wooddy, aged about Two & thirty yeeres Sworne & Exaied Saith That about ye Sixt day of June last past he beinge on board ye Shipp called the Leöpoldus, where & when mr. Read & mr. Gunnell came aboard w'th five men in a wherry, & beinge there he heard them Say that they would Command both Governor & Councell to ayde and assist them to take thafore S'd Shipp, & thereuppon Entred into the hould w'thout Shewinge any Commission for ye Same beinge demanded by the Seamen of ye S'd Shipp, & Searched the goods there, but never Spake a word to ye Seamen of makinge ye Shipp Prize. But afterwards the Said Gunnell & Read desiringe to leave a man on board, The Steeresman of ye S'd Shipp answered for What, they Said to See noe goods be carried on Shoare. The Steeresman Said you Shall leave noe man heere, but desired them, goeing away, to take their man w'th them or he would heave him over board. Notw'thstandinge he did not, but after they ye Said Read & Gunnell were gone, ye Seamen of ye S'd Shipp carried ye S'd man quietly on Shoare. And further the Skipper Said to Coll: Clayborne & others Who then came aboard, if they were Prize they would be Prize to the Country, And if they pleased to send fifty men on board they Should be Welcome. And further Saith not.

ROBTE WOODY.

Jurat'r in Curia 15'o die Augusti A'o: Dm: 1653:

p me WILLM JEVMY, Clionm.

MATHEWS COUNTY, ORIGIN OF ITS NAME.

Howe, on page 376 of his Historical Collections, states that Mathews county, Va., was named after Governor Mathews, of Georgia. Mr. Hugh Blair Grigsby, in his "Virginia Convention of 1788," states that this is a mistake, because "I, who am a townsman of Mathews, have always heard to the contrary; and I find in the chart of the Commonwealth of Virginia, compiled in the year 1790, by Wm. Marshall, that it was called after 'Mr. Speaker Mathews.'"

Now, we have before us papers settling positively this difference, namely, a copy of the Resolutions from the County Court of Mathews county, dated February 11, 1793, wherein they "appoint a committee to write to the Hon. Thomas Mathews, and, in the name of the county, assure him of the High sense they entertain of his worth and usefulness, as *Speaker of the House of Delegates of Virginia*, as such wished to perpetuate his name in the nomination of their county"; and also a Resolution adopting "as their county seal," a seal presented by the Hon. Thomas Mathews, Esq., "in grateful return of the High esteem and respect which was shown him in the erection and establishment of this county."

The originals of the foregoing papers are now in the hands of General Mathews' descendants.

"At a Court held for the County of Mathews the 11th day of February, one Thousand seven Hundred and ninety-three: This day was Presented to the Court, as a donation from the Honorable Thomas Mathews esquire, a seal for the use of the County, in grateful return of the High esteem and respect, which was shown him on the erection and establishment of this county.

"Ordered, that the said seal, which is emblematic and descriptive of the valuation, dependance and prospects of the mechanic inhabitants of the County of Mathews, who have been in the habit of Shipbuilding, be thankfully received by the Court; is recognized under the description aforesaid as their County seal; and as such is delivered to the Clerk both for safe custody as well as for the occasional use of the County:

"Ordered that Thomas Smith and Thomas Smith Junior, Gentlemen, be and are Hereby appointed by this Court, who are authorized and requested to write to the Honorable Thomas Mathews and in the name of the County, to assure him of the High sense they entertain of his worth and usefulness, as *Speaker of the House of delegates of Virginia*; as such wished to perpetuate his name in the nomination of their county; and will retain in grateful remembrance this distinguished token of his friendship and respect.

A Copy—Teste:

JOHN CARY, crne.

MATHEWS, Feb. 15th, 1793.

"Hon'ble Sir:

In obedience to the Orders of Mathews Court, we with pleasure inclose to you an attested Copy of them for your Perusal. You will readily perceive, Sir, the leading principals which actuated them in making these communications, the high Sense they entertain of your distinguished worth as the *Speaker of the House of Delegates &* that as such your memory was meant to be perpetuated in the name which was given to our new erected County. And whilst they are impressed with the hon'ble Testimony, which you have given them of your esteem

and gratitude in presenting them with a public Seal give us leave at the same time, as it is both what is dictated from Inclination as well as public Duty, in the Name of our county to return you their & our sincere Thanks and to assure you of their and our truly reciprocal Friendship and Regard.

We are hon'ble Sir with the highest Esteem & Respect, your much obliged and humble Servants,

THOS. SMITH,
THOMAS SMITH, Jun'r."

LORD DUNMORE.

(Communicated by Mr. J. H. Whitty.)

In Jones and Girardin's continuation of Burk's History of Virginia, Vol. 4, Chap. VI, page 117, it is stated that an attempt was made by Dunmore "either real or pretended towards a reconciliation between Virginia and the parent State." The occasion was a letter addressed January 22, 1776, from the ship *Dunmore* in Elizabeth river to Honorable Richard Corbin, Receiver General of the King's Quit Rents, who was also President of the Council, quoting a portion of his Majesty's speech to Parliament October 28, 1775. In this letter, the History states that after "Complacently expatiating on the rectitude of his own intentions, and the benevolence of his own heart, and vaguely, but acrimoniously reflecting on the views, the motives and conduct of the leading Patriots, he called in that gentleman in the name of God, his King and Country, to 'enforce by every exertion of his best advice and assistance the sincere endeavors which the generous, the humane, the truly noble sentiments expressed in the part of his Majesty's speech just quoted, prompted him to make, to affect, by any means that should be thought most advisable, an honorable, permanent, speedy and happy reconciliation between the Colony and the mother Country.'"

A letter which has just been brought to light indicates that Dunmore had thoughts of and hopes of a reconciliation almost from the beginning of the revolution. This letter is written on very thick, yellow paper with gilt edge, folded in a half sheet of same paper, directed to Richard Corbin, Receiver General of the King's Quit Rents, and sealed with red wax. This is re-enclosed in a similar half sheet, and directed to Mr. Wm. Prentis at Williamsburg with the following: "Mr. Prentis will please deliver this letter as per directions." Signed Dunmore and sealed with the Dunmore crest. The letter reads as follows:

Off Norfolk on bd. the William
September 5, 1775.

Dear Sir:

A few days ago, I received y'rs of the 10th ult. informing me that notwithstanding your private business required y'r presence at home

yet you did not choose to go, fearing it might not be agreeable to y'r Countrymen in their present mode of thinking, but that you had requested y'r friends to mention y'r situation to the Convention at Rd. and that you find it is agreeable to them that you sh'd go. I am sure if that is the case and you are still of opinion that y'r private business requires y'r presence I know of nothing that need detain you a single moment here; on the contrary, I think if there is but a chance that y'r going can be of the smallest service to this y'r native land nothing ought to prevent you, and if my concurrence is necessary, you have it with all my heart and from my soul, wishing that you can be the means of reconciling these very unfortunate differences between 2 countries whose mutual advantage it is to be firmly united, and wishing most sincerely that on y'r return you may find this at present very unhappy and wretchedly divided country in the full exercise of its late happy constitution and Government, which I know is y'r sincere wish, and must be of every real wellwisher to his country, but can be of none more than of y'r most ob't and Very Humble Servant,

DUNMORE.

WILL OF COLONEL THEODORICK BLAND.

[Communicated by Col. F. P. Leavenworth.]

In the name of the one Eternal and ever living God, I, Theodorick Bland of the County of Prince George, in the State of Virginia, being of sound mind and memory, do constitute, ordain and appoint this to be my last will and testament, and I do hereby revoke, annull all other wills by me heretofore made :

I give and bequeath to Robert Bolling of Petersburg, Benjamin Harrison of Brandon, Peter Epes, Inman Baker, St. George Tucker, Thos. Griffin Peachy, and Dr. Isaac Hall, In Trust, two acres of ground fronting the church on the top of Blandford Hill, together with a street of one hundred feet wide to the East, and one sixty feet wide to the South of the aforesaid lot, on which two-acre-lot it is my desire the Publick may erect a College for the Education of Youth within 15 years after my decease, otherwise it is my desire that the said land shall revert to my nephew, Robert Banister, to him and his heirs forever. I give and bequeath to my wife Martha Bland, to her and her heirs forever, all rest and residue of my estate both real and personal, together with my rights, Titles to lands in the Western waters which I obtained as Bounty for my services as an officer in the American Revolution. I give and bequeath to my nephew, Theodorick Bland Randolph, my silver hilted sword, which I used in the cause of American freedom. I give to my nephew Robert Banister my carbine. I give to my nephew John Randolph my Hessian rifle. I constitute and appoint my wife, Martha Bland, my whole and sole executrix of this, my last will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal
the 5th day of Nov'r, 1789.

TH'D'K BLAND [sealed with wax.]

Teste : EDWARD GLOVER,
ASA GIFFORD,
HARRISON FITZHUGH.

VIRGINIA PORTRAITS BY ST. MEMIN IN CORCORAN ART GALLERY.

The following is a nearly complete list of the engraved portraits of Virginians, by St. Memin, now in the Corcoran Gallery, Washington. In many instances the dates are given: Colonel Giles (1799), President Jefferson, Thos. Wickham (1808), Matthew Clay (1800), John Seaton (1798), T. Beale (1796), General Giles (1797), John Gay (1802), Colonel Boyd (1802), Mrs. Wm. Seaton (1797), Th. Bland (1804), Dr. Alexander (1804), — Alexander (1803), — Carter (1804), T. L. Brent (1805), B. Washington (1806), Wm. Brent (1806), Meriwether Lewis (1805), T. T. Tucker (1805) [he was a resident of South Carolina, though a brother of St. George Tucker of Virginia], — Poindexter (1808), J. W. Eppes (1805), T. Mason (1800), — Holmes (1799), L. Powell (1800), Wm. C. C. Claiborne (1798), David Randolph (1807), Thos. Claiborne (1805), Joseph Lewis (1805), James Stephenson (1805), Wm. Burwell (1806), G. M. Bedinger (1806), Joseph Bryan (1805), Th. Griffin (1805), Philip R. Thompson (1806), Thos. Newton (1806), John Tayloe (1806), — Beverley (1807), Alexander Smyth (1805), Thos. Moore (1805), Carter Burwell (1805), — Fitzhugh (1807), B. Coke (1805), Carter Muse (1805), Jos. Thos. [?] Lomax (1808), L. Carter (1805), S. Taylor (1805), Joseph Scott (1808), Lieutenant Gaines [E. P.?] (1808), — Carter (1808), Wm. Gray (1809), — Tazewell (1808), J. Minor (1808), — Triplett (1808), — Muse (1808), — Pleasants (1808), Wm. Cabell (1808), James Currie (1808), — Tucker (1808), Landon Carter (1808), — Mercer (1808), — Cabell (1807), J. Brown (1807), — Jefferson (1808), — Wirt (1808), — Marshall [a young man] (1808), — Rootes (1808), — Clarke (1808), Judge Marshall (1808), — Madison (1807), — Nelson, Mrs. Elizabeth Selden Wickham, wife of John Wickham; Matthew Clay, M. C.; Major Chas. H. Smith, of Norfolk; John A. Chevalier, Mrs. Bell (*nee* Walker, of Petersburg), L. H. Girardin, Dr. Ashton Alexander, Richard Brent, U. S. Senator; Thos. L. L. Brent, Bushrod Washington, General Henry Lee, John Tayloe of Mt. Airy, Col. Wm. Brent (1806), G. W. P. Custis, Isaac A. Coles, Meriwether Lewis, George Poindexter, Thomas Jefferson, John W. Eppes, President Wm. H. Harrison, Robert G. Harper, David Holmes, W. C. C. Claiborne, D. M. Randolph, Col. Levin Powell, Thomas Claiborne, M. C.; Jos. Lewis, M. C.; James Stephenson, M. C.; Wm. A. Burwell, M. C.; Wm. Clarke [the companion of Lewis]; Robt. Beverley, Essex

(1806); John C. Herbert, of Alexandria; Thos. Woodhouse, Dr. Elisha C. Dick, Alexandria; Wm. Bartleman, Alexandria; P. Thompson, Alexandria; Wm. H. Fitzhugh, Ravensworth; George Young, Alexandria; Dr. Thomas Semmes, Alexandria; B. Cocke, Alexandria; Carter Burwell (1805); A. Lynn, Alexandria; Skelton Jones; J. C. Anthony, Richmond; Thos. O. Anderson, U. S. N.; John G. Morley; John Graham, Minister to Brazil; Joseph Scott, U. S. Marshal; E. P. Gaines; John Bell, Richmond; Allan Pollock, Richmond; Hyman Marks, Richmond; Judge John T. Lomax, Williams Carter, Patrick Gibson, Richmond; John C. Hubner, Richmond; L. Carter (1805), Alexander Gibson, Richmond; Wm. Gray, Richmond; Governor L. W. Tazewell; Daniel Triplett, Fredericksburg; Landon Carter (1808), Hugh Mercer, Jr., Gov. W. H. Cabell, Lawrence Muse, Thos. Taylor, Richmond; J. Brown (of Brown & Rives, Richmond); Peter Jefferson, brother [nephew?] of the President; Wm. Wirt, Archibald Blair, Richmond; Henry L. Briscoe [Biscoe?], Manchester; Nicholas Cabell, Jr., E. W. Rootes, Richmond; James Currie, Richmond (son of Dr. James C.); Judge St. George Tucker, Judge Wm. Nelson, Judge John Marshall, Thomas Marshall (eldest son of Judge M.), P. Murry, Richmond; James W. Bates, M. C. from Arkansas (but native of Virginia); Col. John Mayo [builder of the bridge], William Madison, Peter Johnston, Hugh Nelson, Jacob Kinney, Peter Carr, John Wickham, Dr. George Watson, James Breckenridge, M. C.; Col. Henry Heth, Benjamin Harrison (brother of President Wm. H. H.), Robert Johnston, Thos. B. Robertson, Col. Reuben Lindsay, Overton Anderson, Richmond; — Burnett, Norfolk (1808); Benjamin Moseley, Powhatan; James Bankhead, Richard Brooke, son of Gov. Brooke.

St. Memin drew many more portraits of Virginians than are indicated by this list of engraved copies. There are a number of his pictures in Richmond not included in this list, as there are, doubtless, in other portions of the State.

STIFF FAMILY OF VIRGINIA.

In 1878, whilst working at the history of the Stiff family in England, I made some inquiries respecting those of the name in America, and as most of them appear to be connected with the State of Virginia, it will be appropriate to place the results, meagre though they are, on record in the pages of the *Virginia Historical Magazine*.

For most of the information thus obtained I am indebted to my old friend, the late Mr. G. D. Scull, and through him to Mr. W. F. Potts, of New Jersey; Mr. D. W. Strother, Mr. R. A. Brock, and Mr. Hudgin, Mr. Quarles, and Mr. Doll, the clerks of Caroline, Bedford and Berkeley counties. My attention was first directed to the Virginia Stiffs by a somewhat scarce volume, published at Cincinnati in 1840, entitled "The

Texan Emigrant," by Colonel Edward Stiff. This writer was born near the Peaks of Otter in Bedford county, Virginia, as he incidentally mentions in his book, while in another passage he narrates his meeting at Richmond, Texas, with a namesake, "the first and last he had ever seen bearing the name whose genealogy could not be traced to a more tangible source than Caroline county, Virginia."

Very little has been learnt about him, and for what we know we are chiefly indebted to Mr. Clarke, of Robert Clarke & Company, the Cincinnati publishers, who, in 1877, gave the following account of him, related to him by a contemporary who personally knew Colonel Edward Stiff. His informant, a Mr. Ogden, states, "he first knew him at Lexington, Ky., about 1836, just after the duel of General Thomas L. Chambers with General Wilson, in which he was mixed up as a friend of the former. He was then working as a printer in the office of the *Observer and Reporter*. He married there, but cannot remember whom. He came to Cincinnati about 1843, and worked at the *Inquirer* office till near the time of the Mexican war, when he went to Tennessee or Mississippi, and from there went in the war as a captain of a company. After the war he was here for a short while and then went South, and we heard nothing of him till five or six years ago, when we learnt of his death at New Orleans, a poor, broken down man."

Another account states that he met with a violent death in Alabama. He was married and had a family. Relatives of Colonel Stiff were residing at Thaxton's Switch, Bedford county, in 1875, and the name is said to be a frequent one in that district. Somewhere about 1850 there died in Caroline county a James Stiff, a bachelor, who conveyed a small tract of land to a Mr. Chapman, but unfortunately most of the records of that county were burnt or destroyed in the troubles of 1864 and 1865.

There seems also to have been a family of Stiffs long settled in Middlesex county, Virginia, and there is record of a grant of 341 acres of land in Christ Church Parish in that county in the year 1720 to one Jacob Stiff. Besides the Stiffs of Bedford county, Middlesex county, and Caroline county, there is a family of Stiffs at Staunton, Virginia. They descend from a Dr. William W. Stiff, who died in 1867, aged 52, son of Thomas M. Stiff, said somewhat vaguely to have come from England. This probably is doubtful; the tradition more likely refers to a remoter ancestor.

There appear also to have been some Stiffs in New Jersey, some of whom were engaged in the Civil War of 1862-'4. There were in England Stiffs in Berkshire, Hampshire, Northamptonshire and Suffolk in the sixteenth century, and in Gloucestershire as early as 1419. As there was a very intimate connection between Gloucestershire and Virginia, it seems more likely that the Virginia Stiffs came from this county probably at a comparatively early date. The occurrence of the name *Jacob Stiff*, an unusual combination, in Middlesex county in 1720 is noteworthy,

since at that date there was another Jacob Stiff living, being at Dursley in Gloucestershire. It is a coincidence that Dursley is only three or four miles distant from Berkeley.

The fact that this surname is both rare and distinctive has much facilitated inquiry into its genealogy, and as a result I have a large collection relative to the Stiffs, which I should be glad to increase by notes respecting the Virginia families of that name. Perhaps some of the members of the Virginia Historical Society may be able to help.

W. P. W. PHILLIMORE.

124 Chancery Lane, London.

HILL AND CUSTIS.

NASSAWADOX, VA., December 2, 1895.

Editor of Virginia Magazine of History, &c.:

SIR,—In notes on Charles City County Grievances, *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, October number, 1895, p. 157, it is stated that the wife of Col. Edward Hill was said to have been a Miss Williams. If so, she was probably not his last wife, for in Northampton County Records, Vol. 12, p. 99, Edward Hill, of Charles City county, made a pre-marriage contract with Tabitha, the widow of Major-General John Custis, of "Arlington," in 1696, the same year in which Major-General Custis died, as is shown by his tombstone at Arlington in this county. The above Tabitha was the eldest daughter of Col. Edmund Scarborough, who received the soubriquet of the "Conjuror," and who was at one time Surveyor-General of Virginia and Colonel and "Commander-in-Chief of all the inhabitants of the Eastern Shore." Tabitha first married Col. Wm. Smart, who came to Northampton county from Lancaster county, Va. She bore him only one child, whose name has been found, viz: Tabitha Scarborough Smart, who married Richard Hill, of "Hill's Farm," near Accomac C. H. This Richard Hill was brought to Northampton county by Col. Edmund Scarborough, and employed by him as one of his business managers for a time. Tabitha (Scarburgh) Smart married, secondly, Devereux Browne, but she seems to have borne him no children. She married, third, Major-General John Custis, being his third wife, but she had no Custis children who are mentioned. He dying in 1696, she married Edward Hill, of Charles City county, Va., and they set aside land and property for her great grand-children, Thomas and Tabitha Scarborough Custis, children of Edmund Custis, of "Deep Creek," Accomac county, and her granddaughter, Tabitha Scarborough Hill, his wife. Thus there are on the Accomac County Records at the same time the names of two women, mother and daughter,

both of whom were called Madam Hill, or Madam Tabitha Scarborough Hill, at the option of the clerk or attorney writing the deeds or other papers for record, and as the clerks or others were not always particular to specify grandmother or great-grandmother, but usually wrote simply Grandmother Tabitha Scarborough Hill, it is difficult sometimes to tell which Madam Hill was referred to.

While mentioning these old ladies, who were ancestresses to so many persons bearing the Custis name, it may be interesting to some yet living, or even to many persons not bearing the Custis name, to know that Major-General John Custis, his brothers, William and Joseph, who settled on the Eastern Shore of Virginia; Thomas Custis, of Baltimore, Ireland; Edmund, of London; Robert, of Rotterdam, and Ann, who married Col. Argall Yardley, of Northampton county, Va., were all children of John and Joane Custis, of Rotterdam, the inkeeper there, as shown in Col. Norwood's voyage to Accomac. The name of the mother of Col. John Custis (who lived, died and was buried at "Wilsonia," in Northampton county, Va.), is unknown. This John was several years old before his father married Alicia —, who had been the wife, first, of George Travellor, and bore him two children, George and Elizabeth; second, she had married Captain William Burdett, who was a widower with one son, Thomas Burdett, when she married him; thirdly, she married Captain Peter Walker, but no children are mentioned by that marriage; and fourthly, she married Major-General John Custis, of "Arlington," and died leaving no Custis children whose names appear between 1670 and 1580. The General then married Tabitha Scarborough, the widow as before stated of Smart and Browne.

Colonel John Custis, of "Wilsonia," who married, first Margaret Michael, was the father of the Hon. John Custis, of "Arlington," who married Francis Parke, daughter of Colonel Daniel Parke, Governor and Captain-General of the Leeward Islands, and who were the parents of Daniel Parke Custis, the first husband of Martha Washington, nee Dandridge. See tomb of Major-General John Custis at "Arlington," whose epitaph has recently been published in the *William and Mary Quarterly Magazine*. Margaret Michael, the mother of the Hon. John Custis, of "Arlington," was the youngest daughter of John Michael, Sr., and his wife, Elizabeth Thorowgood, who was daughter of Captain Adam Thorowgood and Sarah Offley, his wife, and was sister to Lieutenant-Colonel Adam Thorowgood, for several terms a Burgess from lower Norfolk, who married Frances Yardley, youngest daughter of Colonel Argall and Ann (Custis) Yardley, of Northampton county, Va. I have given this little Custis sketch without giving many references, but I have proofs for all, and have not entered into the other Custis branches for want of space. The first wife of Major-General John Custis I believe to have been a Miss Hancock, but so far I have not found absolute proof of it, nor is any wife of his mentioned prior to Alicia on

these records, but he certainly did not marry her before 1656, and on the tomb of his son, John, of "Wilsonia," who died in 1713, it states that he was in his sixtieth year of age, hence he was born before the marriage to Alicia.

THOMAS T. UPSHUR.

THOROUGHGOOD AND CHANDLER FAMILIES.

BALTIMORE, MD., *December 10, 1895.*

Editor of Virginia Magazine of History, &c.:

SIR,—An interesting communication in the July No., by Mr. Thomas T. Upshur, calls attention to some obscure points in regard to the genealogy of the Thoroughgood and Chandler families. The subject is indeed somewhat complicated, but, with the aid of the Maryland records, I think it may be possible to clear up most of these obscurities, and perhaps, also, to "crack the genealogical nut" mentioned in Vol I, p. 200, of this magazine.

As Mr. Upshur correctly states, no *Jacob* Chandler is known to our early records. Job Chandler, quite a prominent man in his day, is evidently the person intended; and, curiously enough, the accounts heretofore published are in error not only as to *his* name, but also as to that of his wife, as the records clearly show. Job Chandler was a friend of Governor Stone, and brother of Richard Chandler, a London merchant, and on their recommendation was commissioned, 1st August, 1651, Receiver-General of Maryland and member of the Council (*Maryland Archives*, iii, 263). He had probably resided in Virginia, married there, and came to Maryland with his family after the appointment of his friend Stone to the governorship, 11th October, 1652. Mr. Job Chandler demands 1,200 acres—400 by assignment from the Governor, and 800 for the transportation of himself, Ann, his wife, Ann, his daughter, and Daniel Gorden, Garrett Barry, Alexander Simpcocks, Archibald Wahopp, and Rose Spring, his servants, "in 1651 and before" (Land Office, Lib. A B H, fol. 269). He was a member of the Provisory Council established 29th March, 1652, by the Parliamentary Commissioners (*Maryland Archives* iii, 271); was re-instated 28th June following (*Ibid.* 275), and, again appointed, took the oath as Councillor 11th February, 1653 (*Ibid.* 299). On the overthrow of Lord Baltimore's government, in 1654, he was elected Burgess for St. Mary's county, but refused to serve (*Maryland Archives*, i, 340), and subsequently took part in Stone's unsuccessful attempt to regain control of the province, for which he was imprisoned and fined (*Maryland Archives*, x, 428, 430). He is mentioned (*Maryland Archives*, iii, 356) as one of "three persons of his Lordships Councill eminent for their fidelities & sufferings in his

Lordships behalfe," the other two being William Stone and Luke Barber. He again was commissioned 10th July, 1656, member of Council (*Maryland Archives*, iii, 323), and held office, under Fendall's administration, until his death, which occurred in 1659. The following is an abstract of his will :

JOB CHANDLER, of "Portoback in the Province of Maryland"—dated 24th August, proved 7th March, 1659. To loving wife Ann Chandler, my negro woman called "Morratous." To loving daughter Ann Chandler, the negro man called Francisco, given her by her grandmother *Sarah Yardley*. Bequests of negroes to sons William and Richard Chandler. To dear wife Ann, a sorrel horse, with the mare colt my mare now hath, likewise what rings my said wife hath, with a jewell I bought her &c. To loving daughter Ann Chandler, a mare colt. To my said daughter Ann, my son William, and my son Richard, my mare with her increase. To my son William, my plantation that I now live on, with the land belonging to it, viz: 1,000 acres bought of Capt. Lewes, and 50 acres more which I added to it; and in case of my son William's mortality, I bequeath it to my son Richard Chandler. To my son Richard Chandler, that parcel of land lying between the plantation where John Cane now liveth and Goose Creek, supposed to be 500 acres, "and if, after Capt. Whittington's land and my brother Oversey's upon Nangenry Creek be laid out, the 400 acres I formerly surveyed, between that and the land of Colonel Yardley, do not fall into theirs, it is my will that my son Richard have that also." My wife Ann Chandler, to enjoy those lands given to my children, until they be 21 years of age, after which she is to enjoy one third of the same during life. My orchard to be kept in repair, and when it comes to maturity, my three children Ann, William, and Richard Chandler, to have one third of the profit, and my wife the other two thirds. To my kinsman Thomas Maris, two sows with pig, or with pigs by their sides. If any of my brothers in England shall desire to have any of my children sent to them there for their education, they are to be provided for and sent accordingly. If my wife Ann Chandler, shall marry again, and the man whom she shall marry do not perform the part of an honest man, and a good father-in-law to my children, then it shall be in the power of my overseers, hereafter named, to put my children, with what part of their estate they shall think fit, into the hands of some honest man &c., &c. My wife, Ann Chandler, sole executrix. My good friend Capt. William Stone, my brother-in-law Mr. Symon Oversees, and my loving friend and brother Mr. Robert Slye, to be overseers of this my last will and testament. Witnesses: Clement Theobald, William X Eale (*Wills, Lib.* i, fol. 97). Robert Slye married Susanna, eldest daughter of Thomas Gerard; how he was brother of Job Chandler does not appear. Mrs. Ann Chandler, widow of Job, subsequently married Gerard Fowke, of Charles county, who died in 1669, before 30th October, when his widow, Ann, took out letters of administration on

his estate (*Test. Proc.* iii, 272). There is on record a deed of gift, dated 11th March, 1672, from Ann Fowke to her son Richard Chandler, and her three children, Gerard, Mary, and Elizabeth Fowke (*Charles County Records*, v, 101). There is also a special warrant, dated 7th October, 1672, reciting that whereas Lieut. William Lewis obtained, in 1649, a patent for 2,000 acres in Portobacco Creek, in Charles county, and assigned, in 1651, said patent to Job Chandler and Simon Oversee jointly; and whereas said Job Chandler dying seized jointly thereof, his relict, Ann Fowke, entered and was possessed of one moiety of said 2,000 acres to the use of her children by said Job Chandler; and whereas the other moiety of the said 2,000 acres has since escheated; "now at the request and instance of our good friend Richard Chandler in behalf of said children," it is ordered that said moiety be granted to William Chandler, eldest son and heir of said Job (*Land Office, Lib.* xv, fol. 181, cf.; also *Calvert Papers* I, 258-9).

Simon Overzee, whom Job Chandler call his brother-in-law, was a merchant, and though it is stated that he was an "Englishman borne" (*Maryland Archives*, iii, 298), was probably of Dutch parentage or descent. His name is undoubtedly Dutch, and a tract of land owned by him was called Rotterdam. He resided at various times both in Virginia and Maryland (*Maryland Archives*, iii, 298; *William and Mary Quarterly*, II, 268). January 20, 1658, he entered rights for himself, Sarah his wife, and one child "in 1650" (*Land Office, Lib.* Q, fol. 323). His wife, Mrs. Sarah Overzee, died in child-bed, and was buried 9th October, 1658 (*Record Prov. Court Lib.*, S, fol. 164, 166). Now in a petition of Thomas Cornwaleys, dated 1st December, 1658, Mrs. Yardley, "widow of Colonel Francis Yardley," is called the mother-in-law of Job Chandler and Simon Overzee (*Lib.*, S, fol. 144). The whole relationship therefore becomes perfectly clear. The evidence here presented, compared with the Thoroughgood genealogy, *Magazine*, II, p. 414, puts it beyond a reasonable doubt that Mrs. Ann Chandler-Fowke and Mrs. Sarah Overzee were the daughters of Captain Adam Thoroughgood and Sarah his wife. Simon Overzee, however, married a second time. He died at the end of February or the beginning of March, 1659, without issue (*Chancery Lib.*, CD, fol. 9, 56, 103), and 18th December, 1660, his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Overzee was granted administration on his estate, giving bond, 7th January, 1660, for 100,000 pounds tobacco (*Test. Prox. Lib.*, 1c., fol. 7). Soon after this she married Major George Colclough, for one Hugh Broin demands, 7th February, 1660, a scire facias against Major George Colclough and Elizabeth his wife, widow and administratrix of Simon Overzee, deceased (*Lib.* S, fol. 403). Major Colclough had also been previously married, his former wife having been Ursula, widow of Colonel John Mottrom, and before of Richard Thompson. Major Colclough died about 1662, and in 1663 his widow, Elizabeth, appears as the wife of Isaac Allerton (*Magazine*, I, 200; *Wil-*

liam and Mary Quarterly, IV, 39; *Calvert Papers*, I, 259; *Chancery Lib.*, CD, l. c. above), who had previously had a wife in New England also named Elizabeth (*New England Register*, July, 1891). The personality of Mrs. Elizabeth Overzee-Colclough-Allerton is now not difficult to discover. The power of attorney, 20th February, 1663, from Thomas Willoughby and Sarah, his wife, to "our loving brother, Isaac Allerton," the fact that Isaac Allerton had a son named *Willoughby* Allerton, and the entry of Elizabeth Willoughby among the headrights of Captain Thomas Willoughby, in 1654, all combine to prove that she was none other than Elizabeth, sister of Colonel Thomas, and daughter of Captain Thomas Willoughby (cf. *Magazine*, I, 200, 448).

DR. CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTON.

SLAVE OWNERS, ABINGDON PARISH, GLOUCESTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA, APRIL, 1786.

[Communicated by Edward W. James.]

George Belvin.....	1	Thomas Mason.....	1
Edward Busbie.....	4	John March.....	2
Aaron Belvin.....	2	Rich'd March, Jur.....	13
Lewis Burwell, estate.....	24	John Mouring.....	4
John Camp.....	10	Edward Moore.....	6
Anne Coleman.....	2	Rich'd March, Sen'r.....	6
William Camp, Jr.....	9	Isaac Moore.....	6
Gibson Cluverius.....	27	William Oliver.....	4
Atwood Cluverius.....	9	Thomas Oliver.....	7
Joseph Cluverius.....	32	John Oliver.....	9
Thomas Crew.....	2	Seymour Powell.....	1
William Camp, Sen'r.....	2	Mary Powell.....	1
Samuel Cary.....	39	William Pigg.....	3
Grace Dobson.....	4	John Powell.....	2
James Dixon.....	8	Thomas Powell.....	2
Mildred Dewse.....	6	John Page.....	160
Johanna Dunlop.....	10	Theo'r Pointer.....	5
William Dunford.....	5	William Pipen.....	4
Joseph Eaton.....	1	John Perrin.....	116
Charles Edmunds.....	13	Thomas Ransone.....	2
John Evans.....	3	Hansford Row.....	8
Rachel Foster.....	18	Zach Row.....	16
Humphrey Garrett.....	1	Edward Row.....	4
Beverley Hall.....	5	Warner Shackelford.....	1
Cath'r Haywood.....	8	Richard Span.....	1

Sarah Hogg	5	Anthony Smith	6
Jno. Hobday, Sen'r	7	Catherine Stevenson	7
Thos. Hall, Sen'r	3	John Seawell, Sen'r	39
Jno. Hobday, Ju'r	2	Thomas Smith	1
Francis Hobday	11	Thomas Stoakes	10
Mary Henderson	4	Joseph Seawell	5
Lewis Hall	5	Mary Scott	13
Wm. Haywood	1	Zach Shackelford, Sen'r	2
Richard Hall	9	Elizabeth Seawell	5
Joseph Hall	1	John Spalding	2
Richard Hobday	16	Christopher Stoakes	7
John Jenkins	1	James and Rich'd Trice	5
Robert Jornis	5	Wm. Teagle estate	9
Charles Kercheval	2	Mary Tomkies	20
Warner Lewis	143	James Tool	1
James Lewis	37	Francis Thornton	25
Addison Lewis	24	Richard Tilledge	2
Thomas Lewis	16	Sarah Thruston	22
William Lucas	3	Jno. Thruston estate	2
Catherine Leavit	2	John Vincent	2
Potolomy Leavit	3	William Vaughan	16
John Leavit	2	Edward Vaughan	2
Charles Lively	2	John Vaughan	7
Christop. Lewellen	1	James Watlington	4

Copy

C. PRYOR, D. C. C.

1. John King patented land in "Glocester" county on the 10th of October, 1651, and the county was represented in the House of Burgesses in 1652 by Mr. Hugh Guinne and Mr. Fra. Willis. The Abingdon Parish Gloucester *Register*, 1677-1780, is now "in the library at the Episcopal Theological Seminary, near Alexandria." In 1724 the Rev. Thomas Hughes wrote to the Bishop of London that he had been in the Parish four or five years. Old Abingdon church, built in 1765, is still in use. Gloucester county has suffered greatly by fires. All of the county records were destroyed in 1820 by the burning of the clerk's office, and during the *War* the records after 1820 were carried to Richmond for safe-keeping, and by the burning of the city, suffered the same fate as those previous to 1820.

2. John Page was Governor of Virginia for three years, from December, 1802. Was born April, 17, 1744; died October 11, 1808. The reports hows that there were in the Parish 363 horses, 1,568 head of cattle, and 46 wheels of riding chairs, carriages, and other riding vehicles, and also that

14	persons owned	1	slave each	14
19	"	2	slaves "	38
5	"	3	" "	15
8	"	4	" "	32
9	"	5	" "	45
4	"	6	" "	24
5	"	7	" "	35
3	"	8	" "	24
6	"	9	" "	54
3	"	10	" "	30
1	"	11	" "	11
3	"	13	" "	39
4	"	16	" "	64
1	"	18	" "	18
1	"	20	" "	20
1	"	22	" "	22
2	"	24	" "	48
1	"	25	" "	25
1	"	27	" "	27
1	"	32	" "	32
1	"	37	" "	37
2	"	39	" "	78
1	"	116	" "	116
1	"	143	" "	143
1	"	160	" "	160
<hr/>				
98				1,151
Owners.				Slaves.

Authorities quoted : Records in the Land Office, and in the Auditor's Office, Richmond; Hening's Statutes at Large; Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia, by Bishop Meade; Rev. Philip Slaughter in History of the American Episcopal Church, by Bishop Perry; Old Virginia Clerks, by Johnston; and Virginia Vestry Books and Parish Registers, by Mrs. Sally Nelson Robins, in Virginia Historical Magazine for July, 1895.

QUERIES.

THE WILLIAMS FAMILY.

105 MARYLAND AVENUE, N. E.,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 14, 1895.*

As a member of the Virginia Historical Society, and an interested student of Virginia History, and engaged in the effort to collect data for a genealogy of the Williams family, I desire any information I can obtain on the following points, viz:

1. The founder of this family was John Williams, born in Wales January 26, 1679, and his wife was Mary —, born in Wales September 26, 1684. They lived in Hanover county, Virginia. They had eight children. Can any one give me data as to the emigration of this pair, when they came, where they lived and died, when they died, and any other items? The destruction of the Hanover records seem to prove hopeless the task of getting anything of interest about them. I have data about all the children except one, but it is meager. The really full and reliable accounts begin with the third generation.

2. One of the daughters, Ann or Sarah, married a Daniel. Can any one give an account of any descendants? Among others probably, she had two sons and two daughters.

3. Joseph Williams, the youngest son, was the father of John Williams, the Baptist minister, an account of whom is given in Taylor's *Virginia Baptist Ministers*, page 127. He had another son, Matthew. Can any one give reference to descendants?

4. One of the daughters, Mary, it is thought, married a Graves, and had four sons, Henry, John, William, and Elijah. Of her daughters, one married a Barnett, one John Christmas, and Elizabeth married Joshua Coffee, father of General John Coffee, of Tennessee. I want data as to all of these families.

5. Hon. Marmaduke Williams (see *Wheeler's History of North Carolina*, Part II, p. 78), a great grandson of the emigrant above, married Mrs. Agnes Harris *nee* Payne, the widow of Robert Harris (son of Tyra Harris and Mary Ann Simpson). She was a cousin of Mrs. Dolly Payne Madison. They had, among other children, one named Madison Williams and one named Dolly Payne Williams (the writer's grandmother). Can any one give exact relationship to Mrs. Madison, names of Agnes (Payne) Williams' parents, and sources for a full account of the Payne family?

In case any one can supply valuable data to any extent the same will be paid for. I solicit correspondence. This is my own family, and I am anxious to complete its record. Address as above.

DESCENDANT.

RIVERS, RODES, CAMP, CANNON, FLOURNOY, BROWN, HOLLAND.

Aside from the Flournoy family history, the undersigned would be glad to correspond concerning the antecedents of any of the following:

(1) William Rivers, who died in Brunswick county in March, 1809.

(2) The Rodes family of Albemarle, Harrison, and possibly New Kent counties.

Tyree Rodes came to Middle Tennessee from Albemarle county, 1809.

(3) Captain John Camp, who emigrated from Greenville or Brunswick counties to Middle Tennessee in 1807.

(4) William Cannon, of "Mt. Ida," Buckingham county, who emigrated to Middle Tennessee, 1807-'12.

(5) Aaron and Lewis Brown (sons of Lewis, Senior), who emigrated from Brunswick county to Middle Tennessee, 1813.

(6) William Holland, whose son, James, settled at Rutherfordton, N. C., and was senator, representative, congressman, and emigrated to Middle Tennessee, 1811.

FLOURNOY RIVERS.

Pulaski, Tennessee.

HOLFORD FAMILY.

Omerod's History of Cheshire, Vol. II, p. 239, contains an account of the family of Holford of Davenham, whose arms were: *Arg. a greyhound passant sa. with a Canton sa. for difference.* Arthur Holford, younger son of Sir George Holford, of Holford, and heir in remainder, by a deed dated 22d, Henry VII, was the father of (2) Arthur Holford, of Davenham Gent., living 6th Edward VI, who married Anne, daughter and heiress of Wm. Bostock, of Huxley, and was father of (3) John Holford, of Davenham, Gent., born there March 29, 1587-8, married Eleanor, daughter of Richard Hussey, of Albright-Hussey, Salop, and was the father of (4) John Holford, of Davenham, aged upwards of 27 in 31st Elizabeth; married Elizabeth, daughter of Thos. Reddish, of Reddish Lane, gent., and was father of (5) John Holford, of Davenham, who was aged 7 in 3d James I; married Jane, daughter of Thos. Mallory, Dean of Chester, and had issue: I, John, son and heir; II, Richard, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Mallory, of Mobberly, Yorkshire; III, Thomas, "married in Virginia."

On May 29, 1668, a patent for 5,878 acres in Charles City Co., on the south side of James River was granted to Thomas and Henry Batte, sons of Mr. John Batte, deceased (whose wife was Martha, daughter of Thos. Mallory, Dean of Chester, and whose sister, Catherine, had married Rev. Philip Mallory, a son of the Dean, and afterwards a prominent minister in Va.), and among the head rights for this patent were several persons named Batte and Mallory, and Thomas and Anne Holford.

Did Thos. Holford leave descendants?

SEVIER FAMILY.

I am collecting material for a genealogy of the Sevier family.

William and Valentine Sevier came to America about 1740. William settled in Maryland, and married Miss O'Neil. Valentine settled in Rockingham county, Virginia, and married Miss Joanna Goode, and was the father of Governor John Sevier.

I desire information regarding the descendants of William and Valentine Sevier, also the parentage of Miss O'Neil, Miss Goode, and Miss Sarah Hawkins, who was the first wife of Governor Sevier.

MARY SEVIER HOSS,
Nashville, Tenn.

GENERAL WM. RUSSELL.

Any information as to the genealogy of General Wm. Russell, Bvt. Brig.-Gen'l during the Revolution, of S. W. Virginia, and as to the names of his children or those of his son Colonel Wm. Russell, of Virginia, and (later) of Kentucky, etc., is desired, and will be thankfully received, by

GEO. W. KIRKMAN,
Lieut. U. S. A., Benicia, California.

MARY FONTAINE.

Mary Fontaine, grand-daughter of Rev. Peter Fontaine, the emigrant, married Bowles Armistead. Who were the parents of Bowles Armistead, and from what branch of the Armisteads was he descended?

MISS ELIZA S. WASHINGTON,
Charles Town, Jefferson Co., W. Va.

HARPER, MITCHELL, DRAKE, HUGHES, AND FERRISS FAMILIES.

I desire and will greatly appreciate any information concerning the following Virginia families prior to the beginning of this century: Harper, Mitchell, Drake, Hughes, Haley, Ferriss. I especially want antecedents of Rt. Rev. Edward Mitchell, 1760-1837, said to have served in Virginia Rifles under Col. Wm. Campbell, afterward a Methodist clergyman in Botetourt county.

HARVEY M. HARPER,
204 Dearborn Street, Chicago.

PARENTS OF NOAH WILLIAMS.

Wanted, the name of the father and mother of Noah Williams, who lived near Linden, Virginia, and died there in 1827, he having served in the war of 1812, in Captain Francis Ireland's company, of Lieutenant-Colonel Griffin Taylor's regiment, Virginia Militia, from August 25th to November 29, 1814. His wife was Harriet Shanks Walter; born 1797, died 1839. She was administratrix on Noah's estate, as shown by Frederick county records, 1828, of which county Linden was then a part, and the record mentions "Mrs. William Williams" and also Vincent Settle. Was William Williams, who, as shown by Fauquier county records, was married to Eliza Settle, February 9, 1788, the father of said Noah? I have the impression that Noah was a substitute in the war for Vincent. Any information will be thankfully received.

W. MOSBY WILLIAMS,
1421 F. street, N. W., Washington. D. C.